

A really big THANK YOU to everyone who made the holidays brighter!

2020 was a year full of change. One thing that didn't change is the gratitude of those who rely on Open Door Mission for food, housing and care. Our thanks to individuals, companies and groups who donated their time, talents, and treasures to make the holidays brighter for our guests.

Adelphia Motorcycle Association  
Avvino and Bri Au  
Browncroft Community Church  
Can-Ale Bike Club  
Columbiettes  
Harvest Bible Chapel Rochester  
West Herr Automotive Group  
Hoselton Auto Mall  
Katherine Murray/Brighton High School  
LaBella Associates  
Macedon Center United Methodist Church

Matt's Coats for Kids  
Michelle Casserino and Chelle B's Hai  
Optimation Technology, Inc.  
Reg Rowden/Rapid Relief Team  
Seton Catholic School  
Small Business Council of Rochester  
Solstice Senior Living  
Hilton Central School District  
Hegedorn's Market  
Gleason Works and Kainos Restaurant



Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra principal musicians Benjamin Krug and Grace Browning blessed our programs students and staff with a free virtual holiday concert.

Thank you for your prayers which have sustained the staff and guests through this troubled time, and for your support which has allowed us to continue vital programs and services.

LET'S BE FRIENDS

OpenDoorMission.com



Here's my gift to bless people in need this Easter and beyond:

☐ \$34.19 for **13 meals and care**

☐ \$65.75 for **25 meals and care**

☐ \$97.31 for **37 meals and care**

☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as many people as possible

☐ Bill my credit card

☐ Check enclosed

☐ Make this a recurring gift

☐ VISA

☐ MasterCard

☐ American Express

☐ Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CIV/SEC# \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

It's easy to help: ☎ (585) 454-6696 ext. 1719 💻 OpenDoorMission.com 📱 Text Open Door to (585) 207-3077

Open Door Mission of Rochester c/o M&T Bank  
P.O. Box 8000, Dept. 053  
Buffalo, NY 14267-0002



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# Journeys of Hope



## “It was just me and the kids...”

When the lease was up on the house they were living in, Latera didn't think she would have a problem finding a new place for her and her four children to live.

But then she hit a big roadblock that put the family in a hotel and ate up all the money she had gotten together for a new security deposit and first month's rent.

With time and money running out, Cold Water House came to the rescue. Thanks to your support, this story has a happy ending!

Learn how Latera found her way to hope and safety in one of the worst times of her life...

## Just for you...

Doubly Blessed!  
The Mission was a real lifesaver!  
A Really BIG Thank You!







# Director's Message

A MESSAGE FROM ANNA VALERIA-ISEMAN

## Doubly Blessed!

This past year, it would have been all too easy to give in to worry, fear and despair.

But I was often reminded of the promise made in Psalms 46: "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear..."

Having shielded us from fear, God then sent His Son to live among us and free us from sin!

So despite difficult times, we have a double blessing to celebrate this Easter.

The men, women and children cared for by Open Door Mission have been blessed beyond measure

by the prayers and support of our partners, volunteers and donors.

As we move into a year filled with hope and promise, many neighbors still need your help and support to get back on their feet. Loss of jobs has far too many facing homelessness for the first time.

If you are in a position to volunteer your time or make a gift, please do so today.

Wishing you and those you love a blessed and happy Easter,

Anna Valeria-Iseman, Executive Director



**HOPE** is on the menu this Easter.

**\$10.52 feeds a family of four.**

**\$38.00 provides a night of warm shelter.**

Mail your gift today, or donate online at **OpenDoorMission.com**.

THANK YOU!

## Your Legacy of Caring

For 69 years, generous donors like you have saved and changed the lives of hundreds of thousands of men, women and children in Rochester. Through your compassionate support, you have helped individuals and families overcome homelessness and live better lives.

Now, your care for "the least of these" can be continued into the future when you make a planned gift, either during your lifetime or through your will.

To learn more about continuing your legacy of caring, call Chris Scribani at (585) 325-3243, or send a private message to Chris at [cscribani@OpenDoorMission.com](mailto:cscribani@OpenDoorMission.com).



## "The Mission was amazing!"

Latera and her four children ages 11 to 20 were staying in a hotel and fast running out of money.

"We'd been renting the same house for six years when it was sold. We had a dog the kids were really attached to, but the new owner didn't want any dogs, so I decided to move."

"I thought if I had a security deposit and the first month's rent, I'd be all set, but then I hit a roadblock."

Everywhere she tried, there were credit checks and income requirements.

"They wanted me to make 3 times more than what the rent was," Latera says. Out of their old home and unable to find a new one they could afford, the family ended up staying in a hotel.

Between paying for the room, buying food and having car problems, all the money Latera had for the deposit and rent were nearly gone in about three weeks.

"The kids were doing home school from the hotel and one of my son's

teachers noticed we weren't at home anymore. She called me and said 'I want to help.' That help turned out to be Miss Kathleen at Open Door Mission.

The very next day, Latera and the kids packed up and moved into Coldwater House!

"They really changed our lives!"

Within two months, Latera had managed to save enough money for a new security deposit. Thanks to the Mission's help with her first month's rent, the family moved into a new home in November!

Today, Latera's goal is to buy a home where her kids can "Treat their rooms like they are actually theirs and do simple things like paint them whatever color they want."

"Amazing!" That's the word Latera uses to describe Open Door Mission and Coldwater House. Adding, "It's a great place to be."



**"They really changed our lives!"**



## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Classic Midvale Country Club

**2387 Baird Road | Penfield, NY**

- Registration starts on March 1st.
- Play anytime between June 1st and September 5th.
- Best Ball Team Format (play your own golf ball).

**Players and Sponsors Register at: [OpenDoorMission.com](http://OpenDoorMission.com).**



**Bill Mahoney**

Open Door Mission recently lost a cherished member of our team. Bill Mahoney worked our overnight shelter shifts at the Samaritan House Emergency and Transitional Shelter for many years.

Kind, dedicated and a warm, gentle and generous spirit, Bill was a talented artist and beloved by all those who worked with him. He made a lasting impact on the Open Door Mission, and he will be greatly missed.

**Please keep Bill's family and all those who loved him in your prayers.**